

years and fourth in the last nine years. That's a better record than the Duke Blue Devils!

As the championship game Most Valuable Player Velinda Vuncannon told the High Point Enterprise, "We just played with a lot of heart tonight," she said. "We played as one, as a unit. We came out with a fire. It's great to have another ring on my finger. It's a wonderful way to go out." Vuncannon earned MVP honors with a performance that included 17 points, 13 assists, and four steals. The win, however, was a total team effort. Leslie Cook led the way with 23 points, while Rachel Stockdale added 19 points, and Nikki Warren chimed in with 13.

Congratulations are in order for Head Coach Kenny Carter and his outstanding staff in leading the Bison to their undefeated season. Joining Coach Carter on the bench were Associate Coach Jetanna McClain and Assistant Coaches Chris Martin, Dwain Waddell, Chris Shafer, and Twila Filipiak. Supporting the team effort were Managers Chastity Brown and Shauntae Pratt. Ably assisting were Video Managers Alan Byerly and David Gallemore, along with Scorekeeper Jessica Allen.

Of course, as Coach Carter would be the first to say, the praise must begin with the players. Members of this year's championship squad included Leslie Cook, Kathryn Fulp, Mary Gheen, Erica Green, Brittany Hendley, Laura Kirby, Shameka Leach, Jillian Martin, Krystion Obie, Rachel Stockdale, Velinda Vuncannon, and Nikki Warren. So, we congratulate the players, coaches and staff, along with Athletic Director Gary Whitman and Principal Helen Lankford, and everyone associated with High Point Central High School for winning the Girls 2-A state basketball championship.

Meanwhile, across town, the Red Raiders of T. Wingate Andrews High School are celebrating their own championship. On March 10, Andrews captured the Boys 3-A state basketball championship with a 63-60 victory over Kinston High School. The Raiders proved the old adage that it is good to peak late in the season. Andrews had lost four of its first 10 games to open the season but was riding a 12-game winning streak going into the title contest with the Vikings of Kinston. The Raiders, who finished with a record of 26-6, knew it was their night. "We wanted this more than anybody," Will Price told the High Point Enterprise. "We won 13 games in a row (counting the title game) and proved we're one of the best teams in the state right now." Price, a sophomore point guard, had a game-high 28 points, including hitting 5-of-6 free throws in the final 40 seconds of the contest, to capture Most Valuable Player honors.

This was the second state basketball championship in the school's history. The Red Raiders had last won the state title in 1995. Leading the way this year was Head Coach Frank Hairston. Assistant Coaches David Kirkland and Jim Pierson, Head Athletic Trainer Laura Blacksten and Assistant Athletic Trainer Summer Green, along with Managers Julian Weathers and Aaron Ollis ably assisted him.

The members of the championship squad included Freddie Aughtry-Lindsay, Tim Bowden, Jeff Collie, Lester Dunn, Steve Gillespie, Corey Hill, James Ledbetter, Rod McCollum, Will Price, Brandel Shouse, and Gary Thomas.

Everyone at T. Wingate Andrews High School can be justifiably proud of the Red Raiders basketball team. We congratulate Athletic Director David Mizell and Principal Jerry Hairston and everyone at Andrews for winning the state Boys 3-A basketball championship.

While they may still be celebrating in Durham, we know the real home of champions is in High Point, North Carolina. On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District, we congratulate High Point Central High School and T. Wingate Andrews High School for winning state basketball championships.

A TRIBUTE TO THE STEWART FAMILY AND THE STEWART FUNERAL HOME 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, last December 2, 2000 in Washington, DC, members of the Stewart Family celebrated the 100th year Anniversary of Stewart Funeral Home.

John Thomas Stewart, Sr., a young African-American Christian man traveled along dirt roads and trolley tracks to Washington, DC, holding tight to a big dream. He was determined to serve his community and to provide dignified funeral services for Washingtonians. He borrowed money from his brothers and sisters to purchase a casket and a gravesite, and then walked to a Northeast Washington home and arranged for the burial of a child. Mr. Stewart founded the Stewart Funeral Home at 62 H Street NW., Washington, DC, marking the beginning of a rich heritage and tradition of professionalism and community service in the Washington, DC metropolitan community, referred to by the Stewart family as "The Tradition of Stewartship."

To meet the needs of rapid growth, John T. Stewart, Sr. and his family expanded the business and twice moved the funeral home to new locations on H Street NE. During this first half-century, the elder John Stewart became well-known throughout the local community for his Christian charity, kindness and benevolence. The Federation of Civic Associations in 1957 dedicated a booklet in commemoration to him that stated, "... John Stewart did not aspire to be famous or great. Rather, he was a plain, God-fearing man who sought only to live a full and useful life, devoted to his family, his business, his church and the community. He was dedicated to helping others and lending a helping hand to the less fortunate. He carved out a niche in the hearts of his neighbors through his kindness, tolerance and generosity. His unselfish willingness to help others, without thought of credit or reward, looms large in the rich spiritual legacy he left, transcending fame and greatness." John T. Stewart, Sr. had the wisdom and forethought to share his knowledge and philosophy with his eventual successor, John T. Stewart, Jr.

John T. Stewart, Jr. was indoctrinated with the proud Tradition of Stewartship and continued his father's legacy. He and his wife, Margaret Stewart, who gave up her career as a

teacher in Prince George's County, continued the tradition of sympathy and service to the community, serving in both leadership and advisory roles in numerous civic, religious and public service organizations.

In 1964, with continued growth of the business and inherited dedication to providing top quality care and sympathy, John T. Stewart, Jr. built a first rate facility at 4001 Benning Road, NE., which today stands as a landmark institution in Washington, DC. This new and modern facility was built as a memorial to John, Sr., the founder of Stewart Funeral Home. And like his father, John Stewart, Jr. provided guidance to his sons in funeral service and in the importance of community responsibility.

In 2001, Margaret Stewart, her sons, John T. Stewart III and Carlin O. Stewart, and her granddaughter, Stacye, vigilantly continue the Tradition of Stewartship. Stacye, now under the tutelage of her father, John III, represents the fourth generation of the Stewart Funeral Home family. While their business has changed locations a few times over the last hundred years, the Stewart family has held steadfast to the legacy and landmark principles of quality, integrity, and dignified professional services and community involvement.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to pay tribute to the Stewart family for their outstanding contributions to our community.

JOSEPH BATTISTO HONORED FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE IN LEGISLATURE

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my very good friend Joseph W. Battisto, who represented Monroe County with distinction in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives from 1983 to 2000.

Since Joe and I had a shared constituency, I had the privilege of working with him on numerous occasions, and I am pleased to join with his many friends, who will hold a dinner in his honor April 19, to thank him for his exceptional service to the people of Monroe County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Joe, who was born in 1931 in Mount Pocono, is a lifelong resident of the Poconos. He graduated from Stroudsburg High School in 1949, earned a bachelor's degree from East Stroudsburg University in 1956 and graduated with a master's degree from the University of Scranton in 1966. He served his country in the U.S. Army from 1953 to 1955.

Joe's dedication to education stems from his 23 years as an English teacher. At the end of his teaching career, he was the head of his department at Pocono Mountain High School.

Before serving the people of Monroe County in Harrisburg, he served as a councilman in Mount Pocono Borough from 1970 to 1973 and as mayor from 1974 to 1981.

Mr. Speaker, Joe's accomplishments in the Legislature are too numerous to list them all here, but a few examples will serve to illustrate his dedication to serving the people. Joe